



736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

City Manager
(707) 822-5953

Police
822-2428

Recreation
822-7091

Community Development
822-5955

Finance
822-5951

Transportation
822-3775

Environmental Services
Streets/Utilities
822-5957

Environmental Services
Community Services
822-8184

Engineering
& Building
825-2128

February 6, 2017

Assemblymember Frazier
Capitol Office, Room 3091
P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0011

Senator Beal
State Capitol, Room 2082,
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Senator Beal and Assemblymember Frazier;

The City of Arcata is pleased to support AB1 and SB1 which represent a comprehensive transportation proposal inclusive of sensible reforms, modest increases to existing revenue sources, and robust infrastructure investment. The proposal presents an opportunity for the new legislature to address the overwhelming backlog of repair and deferred maintenance as well as other transportation needs in the early part of 2017.

It would be an understatement to say the time to act is now to address the \$73 billion unmet funding need for local streets and roads and \$72 billion backlog to the State's Highway System. For local streets and roads alone, the funding need grows by an additional \$20 billion in just ten years. With the expressed commitment of Legislative Leadership and this Administration to getting this done in the early parts of 2017, we urge this legislature's immediate attention to this proposal.

In 2016 Humboldt County local governments collaborated to assess unfunded transportation infrastructure repair work. In Humboldt County alone over \$200 million in deferred maintenance projects were identified. Information about specific local road rehabilitation projects can be found at <http://www.humboldt-udecide.com/arcata.html>.

When fully phased in, AB1 and SB 1 would generate desperately needed funding for the state and local transportation network. To repair and maintain existing transportation infrastructure, the proposal would generate up to \$2.4 billion and \$2.2 billion annually for the state's highway system and local streets and roads, respectively.

The City appreciates the diverse approach the proposal takes to raise revenue including, a 12 cent increase to the gas tax to restore some of its purchasing power, ending the Board of Equalization's

“true up” process on the price based excise tax on gas, a \$38 increase to the vehicle registration fee, a \$100 vehicle registration fee on zero emission vehicles, a 20 cent increase to the diesel excise tax, \$300 million from existing cap and trade funds, and returning \$500 million in vehicle weight fees phased in over five years.

The City further appreciates the Bills’ series of reforms to improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability and the creation of an advanced mitigation program which authorizes the Natural Resources Agency to establish state and regional transportation mitigation plans and mitigation banks to allow transportation projects to fulfill their environmental requirements in advance.

Overall, this proposal provides a comprehensive transportation reform and funding package. We can no longer afford to ignore our most basic repair and maintenance needs if we wish to avoid systematic failure of the state’s entire transportation infrastructure. There may be no better way to put Californians back to work and stimulate our economy than making the roads we and our children rely on everyday safe again.

For these reasons, the City of Arcata Supports SB 1 (Beal) and AB 1 (Frazier).

Sincerely,



Susan Ornelas, Mayor
City of Arcata

C.C. Senator Mike McGuire
Assemblymember Jim Wood